

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:539

ANSWERED ON:04.12.2003

AGREEMENT WITH SOUTH AFRICA IN HYDROCARBON SECTOR

SHYAMA SINGH

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has entered into an agreement with South Africa for cooperation in the Hydrocarbon sector;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the extent to which the Government and oil companies are likely to be benefitted by such an agreement with South Africa?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN)

(a) & (b): An agreement between India and South Africa for cooperation in Hydrocarbon sector was signed on 16th October, 2003 in New Delhi during the visit of the South African Delegation headed by the President of that country. The Agreement is aimed at establishing a general framework for cooperation in areas of mutual interest in the Hydrocarbon sector.

(c): The Agreement would, inter-alia, facilitate development of cooperation between the two countries for oil and gas exploration and production, processing, refining, storage and technology transfer in the Hydrocarbon sector in South Africa and India as well as third country.